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QUEEN OF ENGLAND'S JOURNAL.

Journal of the visit of her majesty the queen, to Tunis, Greece, and Palestine; written by Louise Demont. With other corresponding papers, collected in Switzerland, and translated by Edgar Garston. London, 1821. 8vo. pp. 84.

[Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the guilt or innocence of queen Caroline, she is at all events, conspicuously prominent before the world, and an object of universal curiosity, if not universal interest. The following account of her celebrated travels will therefore, we trust, be found amusing. The work, though very recently published, appears to have been written before Mademoiselle Demont deserted the cause of her bountiful mistress; it is therefore much at variance with her testimony on the trial; how far she is to be credited on either occasion, the reader will decide for himself; a narrative, by a chambermaid, of a visit to Greece and the Holy Land, is at all events a "new thing under the sun," and curious from its very novelty.]

THE JOURNAL.

We set out from the Villa d'Este the 12th of November, 1815, and slept the same night at Milan, that of the 13th at Nuovi, and on the 14th arrived at Genoa, where we embarked immediately on board an English ship of the line, of eighty-five guns, and five hundred men, called the *Leviathan*, after the most bulky inhabitant of the deep. The wind being contrary, the vessel could not put to sea the same day, and we were in considerable peril, from her touching several times upon banks.

The wind became so violent, that it was impossible to put out a boat; but on the 17th it moderated, and we set sail the same day: on the 18th we passed the ilse of Capraja, near to the Gulf of Naples, on which the Roman Emperor Tiberius ended his days. We afterwards came in sight of the island of Corsica, the capital of which, Ajaccio, gave birth to Napoleon. In the evening we reached Elba, and came to an anchor in Porto Farrajo; and on the following day, the 19th, we disembarked, and paid a visit to

the house of Napoleon, or rather to his prison, for it is as ill-situated and inconvenient a building as can be imagined. There are eight very small chambers below, and above is a hall, in which the portrait of the great Napoleon, painted as at his coronation, is preserved. There are, besides, three small apartments, which were occupied by the princess Eliza, his sister; and by the side of the house is a garden, which was laid out by Napoleon, as also a theatre, in which his officers performed plays for his amusement. The town of Elba is pretty and neat, though small, and is paved throughout with cut stone: it was much improved by the care of Napoleon, who formed a fine road to it four leagues in length, and caused the discovery of mountains, productive of iron, and other minerals. Whilst Napoleon was there, he circulated money freely; and every one in the place still laments the loss of this man, so renowned in every way—of this incomprehensible genius, whose like will never again be seen.

On the 20th we re-embarked on board our vessel; but the wind being contrary, we got out to sea on the 22d only. The island of Pianosa is close by that of Elba; it is flat, and low, and was used by Napoleon as a receptacle for his horses. It was here also that Jonah, on his way to Ninevah, was driven by storms, and remained three days, and as many nights, in the belly of a whale. On the 24th we passed the isle of Montechristo, and on the 26th arrived at Palermo, the capital of Sicily. The town is rather extensive, very dirty, and without any remarkable object of curiosity. The public gardens are the most pleasing which it presents. The place is well situated, and the climate excellent, as may be supposed, when I state, that at the time we were there, the sun was as powerful as in the month of May in Switzerland.

On the 4th of December, at seven o'clock in the evening, we quitted this city, and the day following passed the Lipari islands, three in number, and the island of Stromboli. The latter is a mountain, which constant-

ly throws out flames; and the following very singular, and equally true, anecdote was related to me respecting it. The servant of an English gentleman was taken by the impress, and carried on board a brig, out into the Mediterranean. At the distance of three leagues from Stromboli, whilst the officers of the brig were observing with a glass, the fire which issued from the mountain, they suddenly saw a carriage with six horses pass by,—an object which had never before been seen on this isle. The coachman of the English gentleman looked, and assured them that it was his master's carriage, with his arms upon it, and that he recognised him in the vehicle. All were greatly struck with the circumstance. In every English vessel a book is kept, in which all extraordinary occurrences are noted down; and this book, at the end of every voyage, is inspected by the admiralty of England. The officers of the brig noted in their book the circumstance, and the day and hour in which they had observed it. Afterwards, on his return to England, the coachman went to seek his old master:—how great was his surprise, when told that he had died precisely on the same day, and in the same hour, in which he had seen him pass by on the mountain. The story circulated, the friends of the deceased, who were people of quality, much incensed at it, cried out for justice.—a council of war was assembled—the book was brought—all the officers appeared, and confirmed what had been related. The relations were ashamed that one connected with them should have gone to hell, and that convincing proofs of it should exist. This mountain is particularly remarkable, for though much smaller than other volcanoes, it burns incessantly.

The 5th of December we entered the straits of Messina, and that same evening reached the town. We disembarked on the 10th, and quitted our delightful vessel, to return to it no more; we had been so happy whilst in it, that we left it with much regret. Her royal highness took a house a little out of Messina. Messina is, in

rank, only the second town in Sicily, but, in reality, is prettier and cleaner than Palermo. Opposite to Messina is Calabria, and St. Jean de Rovigio may be seen. Near this town is the plain where the famous Achilles encamped his army, when on his way to the destruction of Troy.

On the 6th of January, 1816, we departed from Messina, and embarked on board the frigate *Clorinde*. Catania is but seven leagues distant. When we were on the very point of landing, the wind became so violent and contrary, that it rendered it impracticable. It is a dangerous spot, because there is no port, but merely a small open road. The gale continued so heavy that we were in great danger. The sails could not withstand its force; but, as soon as set, were rent into a thousand fragments. During an entire day but one sail could be set, and the vessel was tossed about with so much violence, that it was impossible to remain standing. Four days we were in the same spot, with this terrific contrary wind, expecting every moment that our frigate would upset. At length Providence had mercy upon us, and on the 10th of January we entered the port of Syracuse.

Syracuse is at present a small town, but was formerly much celebrated, and governed by its own kings. It is very ancient, having been founded by Etolus (one of the descendants of Noah,) 3-0 years after the deluge. It possesses many antiquities worthy of remark; among others, Dionysius's ear; it is a grotto, hollowed in the rock in the form of an ear, and was constructed by Dionysius the famous tyrant. The echo is surprising; a pistol fired in it produces the effect of a cannon-shot; and words uttered in a very low tone, are repeated distinctly by the echo. It was here that the unfortunate victims of the tyrant's brutality were confined! He had caused a small chamber to be constructed above, in which all the complaints of the prisoners below could be heard. He placed a sentinel there, who, in the morning, related to him what had been said against himself during the night; and influenced by a fear that the soldier might disclose the secret of the small chamber, he strangled him: every evening he caused a fresh sentinel to be placed there, and every morning he was himself, his assassin. It was the same tyrant who would not suffer himself to be shaved, from a fear that the operator might cut his

throat with the razor: he compelled his daughters to take off his beard for him; but afterwards, suspecting even them, he had it burnt away. At Syracuse are shown, also, the catacombs, or vaults, in which were the sepulchres, and into which, the old men, women, and children, fled in time of war. Formerly, it was possible to go under ground to Catania, distant forty miles; but at present they are practicable only about fifteen. They consist of many narrow passages, which lead in different directions, with large chambers at intervals; and are visited always with lighted flambeaux: the gloom, and the feeling which it excites is horrible; and the atmosphere very noxious. There exist still, at Syracuse, the ruins of many temples, sacred to the gods and goddesses, whom the Syracusans of former ages worshipped. The temple of Minerva is the most ancient; it is now converted into the great church, and is said to be the most ancient structure in the world. The fountain of Rotuza is to be seen, the waters of which, though fresh, come from the bay and return to it. The ruins of the houses of the Saracens are still visible: they were hollowed out in the rock; the tables and chairs were also formed of rock. Syracuse formerly possessed four considerable cities, all of which are now reduced to ruins: it gave birth to Archimedes, the most illustrious of geometricians, and the one who invented burning glasses to destroy the vessels of the enemy. The climate of Syracuse was delightful; not a window or door in the house would close well, and still we never experienced the least inconvenience from cold.

We quitted this town the 29th of January, for Catania, in suspended chairs, a horse before, and another behind, it being impossible to travel in carriages, on account of the narrowness and rockiness of the roads. The same evening, we slept at Albentina, a small ruined town of great antiquity; and on the 30th we reached Catania, a very pretty town, at the foot of Mount Etna, a volcano, most formidable during its eruptions: the town has already been destroyed, and rebuilt, several times. This mountain is excessively high, as may be supposed from being covered with snow in the month of August, at which time it is difficult to ascend it without suffering from the frost; a circumstance not a little surprising, on a mountain whose interior is a glowing fire. It

was here, according to story, that Vulcan had his forges, and that the Cyclopes (who had but one eye, in the middle of the forehead) wrought the instruments of hell. Catania is very clean; the streets, for the most part, are straight, and the houses well built, and new. About it are scattered masses of fire-stone, in size equal to cottages, and in colour like coal, which have fallen from Mount Etna. Formerly there was a port, which the lava has now choked up. The ruins of the old port, where Ulysses anchored his vessels, on his way to the destruction of Troy, are still to be seen.

On the 25th February we left Catania, and arrived in the evening at Augusta, a small town, with nothing remarkable except the harbour, which is safe and good. On the 2th March, the small vessel, called the Royal Charlotte, belonging to her royal highness, arrived. We embarked the 1st April, and steered for Girgenti, a town of great antiquity; but which we were unable to visit, on account of the shallowness of the harbour. The island of Sicily is the largest in the Mediterranean, and very fertile; the land yielding every sort of produce spontaneously: the seeds are put into the earth, and left without any culture until the harvest. We saw the corn springing amidst stones and briars, in the middle of the month of January, and the country as green and luxuriant as in the middle of May in Switzerland. Notwithstanding this, the people are very poor: their poverty, doubtless, arises from idleness or want of exertion.

The 3d of April we set out on our passage from Europe to Africa, which we accomplished very rapidly, having run 160 miles in one night. The wind was so strong that it was impossible to stand; for when up, instead of walking, we were obliged to drag ourselves along by our hands; or, if lying down, were unconsciously rolled out of our births. It seemed as though the whole fraternity of devils were in and about our vessel: plates, glasses, and bottles, all rolled about with a frightful uproar. The mountains of water were higher than the masts, and dashed with fury from one side the vessel to the other;—if any one were induced, by fear, to put his nose (*orig.*) through the window, puff (*orig.*) came a wave, which dashed over, and drenched him.

The tables, chairs, and beds were tied with strong cords, and even nailed down. At one instant, the vessel

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rose on the bosom of a wave, and then again sunk so rapidly, that one's breath was checked by the shock; she was dashed, also, violently from side to side, so that to have a moment's rest was impossible. Those who have never seen the sea, cannot possibly form to themselves an idea of its impetuosity. To me it is a most magnificent spectacle, so long as it can be contemplated with tranquillity, and without dread; nevertheless, it is not quite prudent to throw one's self at the mercy of two elements so inconstant as the winds and the waves. For myself, I have always thought that He who had the power of creating, has also the power of stilling them, and preserving us: I ever reposed my confidence in God, our good preserver; and remained perfectly at ease in the greatest dangers, resigning myself to all which it should please Him to send us—whether life or death. The dawn of day, and the view of land, were, however, impatiently expected; never did night appear so long! The darkness was so deep, that it was necessary for the vessel to lie to, lest she might ground too violently (*trop fort*), which would have been destruction to us. At length, the weather cleared up, and day-break appeared! what delight! we were in view of land, and of the shores of Africa! We did not, however, get into the roads of Tunis till night. "Happy is he who gets into port after a storm."

On the 4th of April we disembarked at the Goletta.* After passing the Mole, there is a small lake, between the Goletta and Tunis, twelve miles

* "Her royal highness, wearied with the perpetual rocking of the vessel, resolved to brave the perils of the waves, in order to pass the night on terra firma. We landed at the Goletta, whence the city is fifteen miles distant: this distance may be travelled either by land or water, there being a species of salt-water lake, which runs nearly up to the houses. The ruins of Carthage extend (it is said) the whole length of the lake. We took up our residence in the house of the English consul; but, two days after, the bey made an offer to the princess of a magnificent palace, which had not as yet been occupied, and was not even entirely fitted up. Her royal highness accepted it, and went thither with all her suite; she was received and treated with the honours due to her merit and her birth, having constantly a guard of honour at her command, composed of the chief officers of the bey's household, by whom she was accompanied whenever she went abroad."

in length, from which the town presents a delightful view. At Tunis it is customary to walk out on the roofs of the houses, and there are terraces, upon which it is practicable to make a tour of the town; but the streets are very dirty and narrow. Women, of a certain rank, never step beyond their own doors: when their husbands go out, they lock them up like slaves, and carry the key in their pocket. Occasionally, but very rarely, a few women of the lower class are met with; they wear ample cloaks upon their shoulders, and two handkerchiefs over the face, disposed in such a manner, that merely the point of the nose, and the eyes partially, can be discovered: they have the feet always naked, wearing only an undersole of wood; very wide trowsers are worn by some, petticoats by others. If a husband meet his wife in the street, he cannot accost her, under pain of death. Some Turks have so many as ten or twelve wives; the first is compelled to serve the second, the second the third, and thus with as many as he may have. If one of them have the misfortune to displease him, even in the slightest particular, he takes off her head without ceremony; the Turks being absolute masters in their own houses, and having it in their power to take away the lives of their wives, their children, and their slaves, without being called to an account for it.*

* "Notwithstanding all these precautions, there are always some who find means to deceive the watchfulness of their husbands. Ever on the look out from their barred apertures, they observe the Christians who pass beneath, in comparison with whom the Turks must certainly suffer infinitely; the wives have a decided liking for the Christians, and their preference is perfectly pardonable. If they perceive a Christian pass frequently, they take care to prepare a little note, which they throw down at his feet: frequently it remains unnoticed; the lady then gains her female duenna by presents; she goes in pursuit of their favourite, solicits, nay, conjures and facilitates his introducing himself into the house. Woe to those curious or indiscreet persons, who cannot resist the temptation! whatever pains they may take to disguise themselves as Turks, there are very few who, sooner or later, are not discovered, and so incur the penalty of their folly, which is the loss of their heads, without even five minutes respite. As to the lady, she is tied up in a sack and thrown into the sea. Sometimes, nevertheless, by their artifices, the women contrive to conceal their intrigues from their inhuman and vindictive husbands."

The women never go out; they have wooden gratings before their windows to prevent their seeing any one, except their husbands, who treat them more severely than Christians their beasts. If a Christian be tempted to converse with a Turkish woman, he loses his head, and the woman is tied up in a sack, and thrown into the sea. After they are married, the women are allowed to see none of their relations, not even their brothers. The Turks have a fixed hatred towards us, whom they call Christian dogs: when it is in their power to kill a Christian, it is esteemed an exploit so to do, and no one condemns it; thus one's safety is very precarious amongst these barbarians. They have a profound veneration for their prophet Mahomet. The men have constantly in their hands a chaplet of seeds, and count them, saying over every seed, "God is God, and Mahomet is his prophet." They pray every two hours, and never without washing their hands, feet, and ears. Their mosques are very lofty, and without bells; at an appointed hour, a man, whose duty it is, stands in a box, over the centre of the mosque, and cries out that it is the hour of prayer. The women never go to the mosque, or church, but pray at home. They have no chairs in their houses, and remain all the day stretched out on the floor, with long pipes in their mouths, drinking incessantly thick coffee, without sugar; which is, in truth, the most horrible composition that can be swallowed. The Turks eat with their fingers, and neither the great nor the vulgar are possessed of knives and forks. Before each repast, they wash their feet and hands, and after it repeat the same ablution.

On the 12th her royal highness went to pay a visit to the bey,* at his

* "On the 6th her royal highness went to pay a visit to the bey, at his country palace, about three miles distant from the town. We were in five carriages, and had about forty officers on horseback as an escort; they were dressed in different modes, but so fantastically, that they had the appearance of imaginary rather than of real beings. Some wore head dresses, exactly such as were in fashion eighty years ago; others had white handkerchiefs fastened to their heads, and cloaks of different colours, made like mantillas, on their shoulders, all wearing heavy wooden boots. We were greatly amused with the setting out of this grotesque band; but were struck most forcibly, by the contrast of their ridiculous costumes with the

country residence. All the Turkish officers accompanied her, and on the road went through a very pretty manœuvre to entertain her. They gal-

loped forward with their horses, which seemed rather to fly than to run; when advanced to some distance, they wheeled round, and returned with the velocity of lightning, discharging their muskets, and exhibiting a sham fight together. It is difficult to conceive how a man, mounted on a fiery horse, swift as the wind, can load his piece, and discharge it with so much facility; but such is their manner of carrying on war. In other respects they are very cowardly, and a Christian need not fear an encounter with thirty Turks. Their uniform made us nearly expire with laughter; they looked like so many old women; some had white head-dresses (papillons), others had grey handkerchiefs fastened on the head, and cloaks made like mantillas on their shoulders, with large wooden boots on their legs. During a journey of three miles we were much diverted with this masquerade. We then arrived at the palace of the bey, who received her royal highness. Her royal highness had the kindness to present us to him; after a short conversation, (they conversed in Italian) he took the princess by the hand, and conducted her into his seraglio. She commanded us to follow her; the gentlemen remained in the hall, it being forbidden for any man to enter the seraglio, under pain of death. We were introduced into a magnificent room: the women were dressed with incredible splendour, being loaded with gold, diamonds, and precious stones; their legs were uncovered, and their ancles encircled with dia-

mond chains. The princess, who had been present throughout, then begged her royal highness to condescend to visit their seraglio. We found it much more numerous than that of their father, but by no means so rich. There were many women, of different nations, who had been carried off from their parents while yet young. These hapless victims, once immured, never walk forth more; they live there, and there they end their days. A stranger never meets their eye; consequently, they were so delighted to see us, that they were at a loss how to express their excessive joy. Some of them spoke Italian, but not very well; great part were seated on cushions, and were so immoderately fat, as to be unable to rise without assistance; these were the most admired, and to them all the homage was paid. Prince Mustapha, entering unexpectedly, caused the same movement among them, as would a wolf in the fold. All were cast down and trembling, but taking courage in some measure afterwards, they went one after the other, with the most profound submission, to kiss his hand; not according to our custom, but on the palm, for such is the fashion of the Turks. Whilst these unfortunate slaves

turned with the velocity of lightning, discharging their muskets, and exhibiting a sham fight together. It is difficult to conceive how a man, mounted on a fiery horse, swift as the wind, can load his piece, and discharge it with so much facility; but such is their manner of carrying on war. In other respects they are very cowardly, and a Christian need not fear an encounter with thirty Turks. Their uniform made us nearly expire with laughter; they looked like so many old women; some had white head-dresses (papillons), others had grey handkerchiefs fastened on the head, and cloaks made like mantillas on their shoulders, with large wooden boots on their legs. During a journey of three miles we were much diverted with this masquerade. We then arrived at the palace of the bey, who received her royal highness. Her royal highness had the kindness to present us to him; after a short conversation, (they conversed in Italian) he took the princess by the hand, and conducted her into his seraglio. She commanded us to follow her; the gentlemen remained in the hall, it being forbidden for any man to enter the seraglio, under pain of death. We were introduced into a magnificent room: the women were dressed with incredible splendour, being loaded with gold, diamonds, and precious stones; their legs were uncovered, and their ancles encircled with dia-

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thus discharged their duty, their tyrant remained motionless as a statue, without even deigning to bestow on them a glance of approbation or kindness. "A collation was set before us, extremely well served, and consisting of every rarity and delicacy; and we were again, many times, sprinkled with perfumes. The ladies would not suffer us to depart; and on her royal highness rising, they pressed her to be seated again in such a suppliant manner that she could not deny them; and it was not till we had made a visit of five hours that we left them, and then greatly to their sorrow. They accompanied us as far as the court, making the most affecting gestures. O sweet liberty, said I, on coming out, how inestimable thou art! These unfortunates are buried here alive, condemned to see nought, save the sky, their room, and the barbarian who sacrifices them to every caprice. Every moment uncertain of their existence, they hold it at the will of him who detains them in his power, and who bereaves them of it when they least expect. Her royal highness having taken leave of the bey and all his court, we returned to Tunis in the same manner in which we left it."

"We remarked that the greater number of the women were dark, and that, in their kind, they were much more beautiful than the fair ones, who were not above mediocrity. The princess, the bey, and his favourite wife, were seated on cushions, and black slaves presented them with beautiful napkins embroidered with gold; we were perfumed with the finest essences of Barbary in such profu-

mond chains, their fingers covered with rich rings, and the tips of them painted black. The princess seated herself with the bey and his first wife, upon rich cushions; five wives, of the rank of slaves, presented napkins, wrought with gold; and afterwards the richest collation that can be pictured was served to them; there were full two hundred different dishes, all served upon gold. After the repast, the slaves brought their finest perfumes, and sprinkled us with them from head to foot: our dresses have not even yet lost the scent. The bey ordered music to be brought. Six old women commenced playing a sort of charivari, which deafened our hearing, but it was the most excellent melody of the Turkish court; and the old women were the most perfect of its songstresses. Afterwards, the eldest son of the bey (he who is now reigning) took her royal highness by the hand, and conducted her into his own seraglio, whither also we followed her. That of the son is more extensive than that of the father, and contains more women; but they were not so richly dressed, with the exception of his wife, who was very beautiful, as was also that of the second son. The ceremonies with which we were received in the first seraglio were repeated in this; the women crowded round us, and appeared delighted to see us. Unfortunate creatures! we were undoubtedly the first strangers whom they had seen since they were first immured, like encaged birds, in these cloisters. When once the doors of the mansion are closed upon them, they step forth no more, and meet the eye of no one, save the princes, by whom they are treated like slaves. When the princes enter, they all hasten to kiss their hands; it is the only favour enjoyed by them. They are enormously fat, and those who are the most bulky are esteemed the most beautiful; those who are slender are lightly valued, and even scarcely looked at. They are constantly guarded, and watched by eunuchs; thus I look upon them as buried alive. It is said that there are five hundred in the palace of Tunis.

After having viewed all, we returned to Tunis, where we resided in a magnificent palace belonging to the bey. The poor old man showed great politeness to the princess. Every day he had a dinner prepared for her, and for the whole of the family, the cost of which, it was said,

was thirty louis per day. She was attended with the state of a queen, in her own palace; we never went out without the attendance of a guard of honour, which remained constantly in the palace, awaiting the commands of her royal highness. We made several small excursions, in which the bey provided us with horses, and we usually slept at some one of his country houses, where every thing was pre-arranged for our accommodation. Her royal highness visited Utica, celebrated for the self-destruction of Cato, the last of Roman republicans. She went also to Sarrone, where there are many vestiges of ancient days; among others, the celebrated aqueduct which supplied Carthage with water; it is sixty miles in length. The roads are so horrible that it requires no slight degree of courage to pass them in a wheeled vehicle. At one time we had to descend, as it were, a ladder, and ford a river; at another, we were compelled to pass over precipices, and fragments so high that the carriage was jolted quite off the ground (*sautait en l'air*). We were, notwithstanding, quite devoid of fear.

We afterwards visited Carthage, so much celebrated for its antiquity, and for having been long the rival of Rome. It was founded by Dido, sister to the king of Tyre. This city, the birth-place of the renowned Hannibal, was once beautiful, and the emporium of commerce, but was afterwards thrown down, and reduced to ashes by the Romans; and on its site is now to be seen nought but a few old miserable houses.

On the 22d of April we quitted Tunis* and on the 24th, made sail for

* The causes and manner of the princess's departure from Tunis are minutely described as follows:—

"Her royal highness purposed spending the month of April at Tunis; but the English fleet arriving there unexpectedly, Lord Exmouth came himself to request her to quit the shore, as the bey appeared obstinately resolved to refuse the slaves demanded; and it was probable that he should be compelled to resort to extremities. Preparations were made for our departure with the utmost promptitude; and many boats, sent by the order of the admiral, were loaded with our baggage. The inhabitants of Tunis were in consternation, expecting every moment that the town would be fired upon by the fleet; and the precipitate departure of the princess seemed to confirm their conjectures, which were, in truth, but too well founded; two hours only being allowed for reflection.

Greece. On the 26th we passed the island of Pantalania, and on the 29th that of Gozo, were Ulysses, on his return from the Trojan war, was detained seven years by the goddess Calypso, who sought in vain to enslave him for ever. Telemachus, his son, was shipwrecked on the same isle, and was also well received by the goddess. Gozo is very near to the island of Malta, on which the apostle Paul was wrecked, during his voyage to Greece. We entered into the harbour; but, as arriving from Tunis, could not land without performing quarantine.—The town, when seen from the harbour, appears pretty; but the streets are all up-hill. On the 31st, the wind becoming favourable, we continued our voyage, and during three days had sight of no other objects than the sky and the sea. No-

The bey could not persuade himself that the menaces were serious, and was very backward in giving a formal decision: until, learning that her royal highness was on the point of quitting the town, and that her baggage was already shipped, he was terrified by the promptitude of the resolution, and justly assigning as its cause, the danger which hung over him, he already imagined that he saw Tunis subjected to the horrors of a bombardment: the town, although well fortified, must soon have yielded to superior force.

"The bey, aware that time was important, and the danger pressing, dispatched his prime minister to the princess, praying her to obtain an interview with Lord Exmouth, as he was fully resolved to give up the slaves to him. Notwithstanding this arrangement actually took place, her royal highness persevered in her design of quitting Tunis; it appeared as if she foresaw the revolution which took place some time afterwards, and which would doubtless have been pregnant with mischief to her, had she unfortunately been present. The bey, who had with his own hands put his brother to death, and procured the cruel murder of his nephews, as a means of establishing himself upon their throne, was in that revolution dispatched by his eldest son, who assumed his seat. The youngest fled to the Goleta, took possession of five brigs of war, and did not scruple to become a leader of corsairs, and to infest the seas, in company with his worthy comrades, committing the most horrible outrages.

"We embarked on the 22d, and with a very brisk wind passed in front of the fleet; each ship fired twenty-one rounds of cannon, in honour of the princess of Wales; the flags were mounted, and the masts and yards manned with sailors dressed uniformly, the whole producing a very pleasing effect. Lord Exmouth sailed on the 23d, and we on the 24th, with a favourable wind."

thing is more melancholy; one feels as if exiled from the rest of the world! Proportionably great was our joy on coming in view of the isle of Cythera. It is the first of the Archipelago, and the one where Venus was produced from the foam of the sea. Formerly she had her temples there, and was adored as a divinity. The number of rocks around it render it dangerous; among others, is a large one in the form of an egg: any vessel so unfortunate as to strike upon it is inevitably lost.

On the 4th we reached Milo, an island having an excellent harbour, and a small village on the heights of a mountain. The women of this isle are remarkably beautiful, and still wear the costume of ancient Greece, which is much more elegant than the modern dress.

On the 5th, we left Milo, and set sail for Athens, where we arrived on the 8th; we landed immediately, from a desire to gratify ourselves with a view of this city, which was formerly so famous and so interesting, and in which so many illustrious men have flourished. It was in being 1600 years before Christ; and many beautiful monuments of its ancient splendour still remain.* Athens is distant from the port about four miles, and it is customary to travel that distance on horseback. On the 9th, we commenced our visits to the most remarkable antiquities; among which is the temple of Theseus, the hero of Athens. It is the best preserved monument, not only in the city, but in the world. It consists of thirty-six columns of white marble, of the Doric order; the columns are eighteen feet in height, and are ornamented with bas-reliefs of the exploits of Theseus: at this time the temple is converted into a church, for the use of the Greeks, and is dedicated to St. George, their protecting saint.†

Pricho, where the public assemblies were held, and where Demosthenes and other orators harangued. There was an extensive space of ground, where the audience were seated, and above was an eminence, the ascent to

which was by a flight of marble steps, still visible. There the orator spoke, and thence was he, with facility, heard by those around him. Below this eminence are the excavations, in which the Athenians made offerings for any blessing granted to them. Above, is the Areopagus, at this time an extensive plain; and on the hill, called Musæ, is still seen the Philapapus, a monument of marble, constructed by the emperor Hadrian, which is now reduced to a few mutilated statues and horses in bas-relief. Beyond this hill is l'Agro Corinto, and Mount Ilicon. Beneath, still exist the gloomy prisons of the Areopagus, constructed entirely of marble. They had no doors; and the entrance into them was by an aperture in the roof. It was in them that Socrates was condemned to drink the fatal hemlock, because he had dared to speak of the one true God, whom the Athenians absolutely refused to acknowledge, preferring rather to remain in the darkness of ignorance, and the worship of their false deities.

The temple of the four Winds is extremely well preserved; and the exterior is ornamented with figures, descriptive of the powers to which it was sacred: this temple is at present converted into a mosque, and in it the dervises perform their extravagant ceremonies. Never was any scene more frightful! In the outset the premier sings and the rest repeat after him; they then take him by the hand, and utter such violent cries that they lose their breath, and appear on the very point of suffocation. Two of them then strip off their gowns, their shoes, and their turbans, beat their bosoms, tear up their dishevelled hair, like furies, from every part of their heads, shriek again till they are out of breath, and then turn rapidly round, until their eyes grow dim, and they fall to the earth. Afterwards comes forward another, with his hair wild, his dress half stripped off, and a knife grasped in his hand, which, after many horrid gestures, he plunges into his own bosom: the rest wipe up the blood with their hair; one takes a drop and smears it on his face, and the others lay hold of him, and toss him about violently till he becomes senseless and falls. All then lay aside their turbans, the music commences, and they turn round as if distracted, kneel, kiss the earth, and rise again. The chief priest holds a crown in his hand, and cries "Nolan la Mahommed, No-

lan la!" the rest repeat the same words, in different tones, and the most confused manner. The priest turns himself in the direction of Mecca (where lies the tomb of their false prophet, Mahommed,) and bows repeatedly, and profoundly; his example is followed by the others, who bow in the same manner, and turn round again to the sound of a sort of music, which is little better than the striking together of a pair of sandals. They conclude by embracing each other, and, kneeling, kiss the earth. It is impossible, without witnessing the scene, to form an idea of the sensations which are called forth by it: at one moment it is difficult to repress laughter; at another, pity and dread contend for the mastery. I was so overcome by terror, that I involuntarily seized hold of a gentleman who was at my side, and trembled from head to foot. It is forbidden to be a spectator of these ceremonies, but her royal highness had asked permission, and obtained it as a high favour.

In Turkey, if a person become mad, he is looked upon as a saint, and rambles through the streets, his head covered with flowers, and his body with ribbons. After his death he is held in great veneration; a tomb is erected over him, and he is invoked as a saint: a circumstance, which exhibits strongly the stupidity and ignorance of this uncivilized people.

The lantern of Demosthenes is still to be seen in Athens; it is a monument of marble, and is ornamented with many fine bas-reliefs. Music is at this time performed in it.

The fortress, or Acropolis, in which is the statue of Icide, and the fountain of fresh water, which was created by Neptune, when disputing with Minerva. The grotto of Diapanne Propiles, or the citadel; in it is the temple of Minerva, the magnificence of which consists in the number, height, and massiveness of its columns, of white marble, and of the Doric order: there are various bas-reliefs, and five statues on the front. At the fortress still remains the portico, consecrated to Neptune Erecteus, with five columns in front; it is now used as a powder magazine. In the same place is also the olive tree, which Minerva commanded to spring from the earth, during her dispute with Neptune. The ruins of the temple of Victory. The temple of Minerva, protectress of the ancient Athenians, constructed wholly of white

* "The English consul having sent horses to convey us to the city, we set out at five o'clock in the evening, and took up our abode at the house of the French consul, which was the most commodious, and best furnished."

† What follows is an unconnected catalogue of existing monuments, taken promiscuously and unconnectedly.

marble, and encircled with a double portico, supported by two rows of beautiful Doric columns. The length of the temple is one hundred and twenty-seven feet, the breadth one hundred, the height sixty-nine. This also is now used as a powder magazine.

In the wall of the fortress is a head of Socrates, supposed to have been once very fine, but now scarcely to be recognized, so much has it been consumed by time. Below are the ruins of the theatre of Herodotus Atticus; besides them, those of the theatre of Bacchus, in which, during the festivals of that god, seven pieces were at times represented in the course of a day. There was room in it for thirty thousand spectators; but if any rain fell, they were obliged to quit the performance, because the place was entirely exposed. The triumphal arch of Adrian. Near it is the temple of Jupiter Olympius, or the Pantheon; of which there is now but thirteen columns remaining, out of the one hundred and twenty which it formerly possessed; they were sixty feet in height, and nineteen in circumference, of beautiful marble, and of the Doric order.

The Ilissus, the celebrated Athenian river, over which was formerly a fine bridge, near to this temple, now in ruins. We were told that there had not been water in its bed during forty years, and that it had reappeared only this year. Here was the promenade of the beautiful Grecian ladies.

The stadium, in which were exhibited the wild beast combats, and where every five years, the ancients celebrated the Olympic games; it is of immense extent, and in the form of a horse-shoe. Under the mountain is the enclosure, whence the chariots issued, for the race in the arena, and into which, when concluded, they returned. After the games, crowns, formed simply of laurel, were distributed to the victors, who were more gratified than if a kingdom had been bestowed upon them. It is related, that, on one occasion, a fond mother expired with excessive joy, on seeing her son proclaimed victor. This amphitheatre would accommodate one hundred and fifty thousand spectators; the site, and the grass, which flourishes on it, are all that now offer themselves to the eye.

At a short distance, are the ruins of the temple of Ceres, goddess of ag-

riculture; as also, the fountain of Galiochéa, now dried up. In the town is the temple of Jupiter, at present converted into a Greek church; and, likewise, the temple of Augustus.

Mount May is still pointed out, as the spot where St. Paul preached to ten thousand Athenians, who became converts the same day.

Outside the town are the tombs of Transiles, and of Pericles, the best, and most illustrious monarchs of those days. The house of Plato, the great philosopher. The temple of the Furies, in which (Edipus died of despair. This young man having killed his father, without knowing him, became so wretched, that he quitted Athens, and never returned to it more. The temple of Venus, in which is a myrtle, said to have been cut, and even burnt down to the root so often, that its reproducing itself is inexplicable. It, surely, must be an exertion of the power of the goddess, protectress of love, of which the myrtle is emblematic; and consequently, demonstrates, that it is vain to attempt to exterminate and destroy (*qu'on a beau couper l'amour jusqu'à la racine, et faire tous ses efforts pour le détruire*) love; it always resumes its post.

On the Piræus is the tomb of the famous Amazon, wife, it is said, of Theseus. In truth, on whatever side one bends one's steps, it is over the ruins of this ancient and beautiful city, which formerly ranked among the most celebrated in the world. It is now much changed, being small and wretched, without trade, and without industry.

The mountain, from which the ancients obtained all their fine marble, still remains; but marble is found in it no longer. Opposite to it is Mount Hymettus, productive of excellent honey.

From the fortress, the small town of Athens presents a beautiful prospect; it is situated in a rich plain, planted with olives, the fruit of which yields an abundance of oil.

The Athenian women are not beautiful, nor yet is their costume; they suffer their hair to float at length, and those who have not a sufficient quantity, add to it silk, painted the same colour: they conceal the greater part of the face.*

* "They are, in general, very tall, but without grace; their countenance is melancholy, and without expression; and their eyes are cast down, so that it is difficult to distinguish of what colour they are. Does

* Her royal highness gave two balls to the Grecian ladies: their manner of dancing is insipid to the last degree (*pour mourir d'ennui*). They are not permitted to dance with the gentleman, but merely among themselves; and their dance consists of nothing more than taking each other's hand, and turning. The first, or the one who dances best, holds a handkerchief in her hand, which she constantly waves; the accompanying music is simply, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, and 1, 1, 1, without variety. Added to this, their want of grace makes one fancy them puppets, moved by wires. The lower rank of women wear a head dress, composed of a silver coin, called *barras*, which is equivalent to a rap of Switzerland; they have also necklaces of the same materials: the coins are pierced in the centre, and placed on an iron wire. The women who are more wealthy, wear gold coin in the same style, and in great profusion. Both the poor and the wealthy unstring them, when they have no other money, or in preference to borrowing, and distribute to the many poor who offer themselves every where, and invariably limit their petition to a *barras*.†

this arise from diffidence, or modesty? we are told from neither, but merely from habit."

* After relating an instance of despotism cruelly, exerted by a Turk towards a Greek, she continues:—

"It was told to her royal highness that, for several years, three hundred of these unfortunate beings (Greeks) had been incarcerated in the prisons for debt, the greatest part of whom were languishing in weakness, and declining to the grave in anguish. The princess, not belying her accustomed generosity, paid their debts, and restored them once more to the light from which, without her, they would have been for ever shut out. The governor gave proof of his humanity: whilst receiving the money, he could not refrain from showing excessive vexation at these poor creatures being released, and in freedom; he would, doubtless have preferred seeing them expire in anguish, through ill treatment. I should never conclude, were I to attempt to describe the excess to which this barbarity is urged, against a people who merit it so little; and who formerly gave laws and examples to the universe. It is difficult to conceive, how they can have so far degenerated; but, truly, there is nought so cramps the soul, and so prevents the spirit from assuming its level, and aiming at great and useful designs, as slavery."

† "The governor of Athens paid several visits to her royal highness, accompanied by a numerous court, and a guard of

After having examined every object of curiosity, and interest, at Athens, we quitted it on the 24th, to proceed on our voyage, and on the 28th, arrived at Corinth,* a very insignificant town, with respect to size, but of great antiquity. We resided in the palace of the Bey, which is very extensive. Corinth offers no objects of curiosity, save its castle, in a commanding situation; a few columns, which are said to be the wreck of a temple of Neptune, god of the sea; and a tomb, pointed out as that of the children of Medea, slain by her own hand.

On the 28th we resumed our journey, after having visited the Seraglio,

honour, which had a most fantastical appearance; their uniform being incomplete, and their arms for the most part but clubs, cut in the country. The guard were on foot, and the governor on horseback; as throughout the whole of Greece, the use of carriages is unknown."

* The following refers to Corinth:—

"The Bey sent a number of horses for the use of the princess and her suite. All his officers came, by his order, to meet her, and accompanied her to the palace, where she was received with great ceremony. A suite of apartments had, for some time, been prepared for her use, in the most commodious manner that can be expected amongst the Turks.

"The following morning we made a visit to the seraglio. The wives are not numerous, but are prettier, and appear more happy and more free, than at Tunis. The bey married, about three years ago, a country woman, to whom alone *he has, since that time, attached himself*. He treats her with regard, and may, in truth, be considered an exception to the general practice of the country; being a model of constancy, where constancy was never known before. The cause may be, that his wife is very beautiful; and he himself appeared to us far more amiable than others of his nation. He paid his respects to her royal highness daily, and neglected nothing that could render her stay in the place as agreeable as possible. There is nothing remarkable to visit. The castle is on a very elevated situation, and permission to visit it is rarely granted to strangers. This precaution led her royal highness to believe that there was certainly something curious in it, which they endeavoured to conceal from every eye; her curiosity was thus roused, and she requested leave to go through it, which was instantly granted to her. We went up to it, but found absolutely nothing more than the fortress. At the foot of the castle there are some columns remaining of a temple, which was dedicated to Neptune; and close by is a tomb which is said to be that of the children of Medea, slain by herself, to punish Jason for his infidelity."

in which there are many women. The port is six miles distant from the old town, agreeably with the system anciently pursued by the Greeks, through motives of policy, of constructing their ports at a distance from their cities. On the 29th we set sail, and the following day the wind became so violent, that we were obliged to come to an anchor off Cape Colonne. On a mountain above the road are the ruins of an ancient temple of Minerva Poliades, built of splendid white marble: there still remain fifteen columns, which we visited.

The first of June, the wind being again favourable, we set sail, and on the 3d reached the isle of Tenedos, opposite to the plains of Troy. It was thither that the Greeks retired, whilst the wooden horse, with ten thousand men enclosed in it, was introduced within the walls, for the purpose of destroying this great and beautiful city, after it had withstood a siege of ten years. There is no longer a stone to be seen of its once proud edifices, and its site is an unbroken plain, planted with olive trees. We twice passed the Scamander, which formerly crossed the city. At a trifling distance is New Troy, built by Alexander the Great. The town is not in any way remarkable. Close to it is the Strait of the Dardanelles; the rapidity of the stream renders the entry into it very difficult, and without a very stiff breeze to overcome the current, it frequently occurs, that vessels are detained six weeks without being able to get through it. At the entrance are two fortified castles; on the left that of Europe, and on the right that of Asia, as also a pretty little village. A little further up we saw the ruins of Sestos in Asia, and of Obisto in Europe.

On the 5th of June we passed Gallipoli, at the entrance of the Sea of Marmora, and on the 7th, at four o'clock in the morning, entered the port of Constantinople. From the port this immense city forms a magnificent view. It is built in the form of an amphitheatre, and is divided into three districts, Pera and Galata, the residences of the Christians, and Constantinople that of the Turks.—The houses are all constructed of wood, which is frequently the cause of great conflagrations, extending even to three or four thousand houses. If a fire break out, no attempt is made to extinguish it, unless the Grand Seigneur be present; and if he were at

a distance, the town would be suffered to burn down, whilst awaiting his arrival. On the day of our arrival, we disembarked, and went to reside at the spacious palace of the British ambassador. When within the city, it appears far from beautiful, owing to the narrowness and dirtiness of the streets. Her Royal Highness, her lady of honour, my sister, and myself, went up in a sort of car on two wheels, drawn by oxen, which is the best equipage the country affords; the rest of the household were on foot. It is said that the Mosque of St. Sophia is splendid, but no Christian is allowed to enter its precincts; the Turks themselves enter barefoot. Every Friday the Sultan goes to prayer, accompanied by his guard. His palace is very beautiful, and is surrounded by cypress trees; this tree appears to be the favourite of the Turks, for before every house there is one,—the effect of which, in this great town, is strikingly pleasing.

The plague breaking out here, her royal highness was under the necessity of taking a country house. On the 14th, we went to Butiere, fifteen miles distant from Constantinople, upon the Bosphorus. Nothing can be imagined more enchantingly beautiful than this canal, which unites the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmora. The mountains, on either side are sprinkled with villages and villas, and the canal with vessels, laden with merchandise, passing from sea to sea. We occasionally made excursions on the Black Sea, and in one instance we breakfasted in Asia, and dined in Europe. On the banks of the Black Sea are many fortresses, and in a small garden is seen the tomb of a giant, who is said, in days of yore, to have been the king of that country—it is sixty four feet long. Near it is a temple, consecrated to Bacchus, god of wine.

The grand seignor sent rich presents to the princess, though he is by no means fond of seeing any distinguished personage within his dominions. The boats, on these seas, are not broader at the bottom than the hand, and to prevent being upset, it is necessary to sit down on the planks; even then they are dangerous. They are very long, and go like the wind. In Constantinople, seven or eight women may often be seen taking an airing together in a chariot, drawn by oxen. They are invariably escorted by Turks, to prevent them convers-

ing with any Christians, if they should take a fancy so to do; this is by no means an improbable occurrence, as the Turkish women entertain a great admiration for Christians. It is said that they are beautiful, but with regard to them, we must not, like Thomas, decline to believe, without ocular demonstration; in that case, we should always remain in doubt, for they never unveil their countenances.

(To be Continued.)

ANALECTA;

Or, Extracts from New Books.

[From a Statistical, Commercial, and Political Description of Venezuela, Trinidad, Margarita, and Tobago; translated from the French of M. Lavaysse.]

ORIGINAL NATIVES OF VENEZUELA.

"The Mexicans were cultivators, and practised many of our mechanical and chemical arts; a good government, and wise laws, would have exacted the adoration of a people that groaned under the double tyranny of a Montezuma, and the most debasing feudalty.

"But the aboriginal natives of Venezuela were then in a very different situation: they had made no advances from a savage state, scarcely cultivating a few roots, and depending for the remainder of their wants on the spontaneous productions of nature which were lavished in a climate so inviting to indolence. The Caribs, Parias, and Caraccayans, had not arrived at the knowledge of domesticating animals; they were not even herdsmen or shepherds, and consequently far inferior to the Bedonins and Tartars. Something more than mere exhortations was therefore requisite to withdraw them from such a life, and induce them to become cultivators.

"Even to this day the Indian tribes of the new world, so far from being ameliorated in their condition, have become completely depraved, and are almost extinct in the neighbourhood of European settlements, particularly the British and French, which have not subjected them to their laws. Since the abolition of the Jesuits, drunkenness, licentiousness, and the small-pox, have destroyed nearly all the communities that lived in the vicinity of the French and English possessions in the two Americas. At Cayenne, for example, more than sixty thousand Indians were counted in 1720: and fifteen years after they had lost their Jesuit missionaries, that is to say, in 1777, there remained only four or five thousand; in 1809, there were scarcely two hundred!"

CONVENTS AT CARACAS, THE METROPOLIS OF VENEZUELA.

"This town has five convents, of which three are for the men, the Franciscans, Dominicans, and Brothers of the Order of

Mercy. The church of the Dominicans has a very curious historical picture: it represents the Virgin Mary suckling a grey-bearded Saint Dominic. The following is the account of this miracle, as recounted by the sexton to those who visit the church: Saint Dominic having had a violent pain in his breast, and his physician having ordered him woman's milk, the Virgin suddenly descended from Heaven and presented her breast to the saint, who, as it may be supposed, was cured in an instant. The sexton finishes his story by observing, that the Virgin operated this miracle in acknowledgement of their founder's devotion for the rosary.

"The priests of the oratory of St. Philippe Neri have also a church: they are usefully occupied in the civilization of the aboriginal inhabitants.

"The two monasteries of women are those of the Conception and Carmelites. A more useful and respectable association is the congregation of Las Educandas: it is a community of young ladies of good family, and well educated, who, though they do not make vows of chastity and confinement, as the others do, observe them much better, and occupy themselves in the education of young females."

CHURCH AT ARAURE.

"This little town is well built, and has a very handsome church, the temple of a miraculous Madonna, which, according to the tradition of the country, was found in 1702, under the bark of a tree, by a female mulatto, named Margaret, who bartered it with the Caruchin Miguel de Palencia, for a small image of the Virgin, reliquaries, &c. It appears, however, that it had not begun to work miracles, and enter into a competition with the Virgin of Guanare, until 1757. The priests of Guanare declare, that the Madonna of Araure is only a Capuchin fraud, and has never performed a miracle: more charitably inclined than my friends of either places, I believe that the two Madonas are equally worthy the veneration of the faithful!"

INHABITANTS.

"The inhabitants of Araure, as well as those of Guanare, are considered indolent, lazy, and much addicted to pleasure, which appears to be the distinguishing characteristics of the inhabitants of every country in the world, where miracle and superstition possess much influence."

AMUSEMENTS, &c. AT CUMANÁ.

"Bull-fights, cock-fighting, and rope-dancing, are the amusements most frequented by the inhabitants of this town and the rest of the province. There was no town clock in Cumana four years ago: while M. de Humboldt was in this town, in 1800, he constructed a very fine sundial there. When a stranger passes by this dial, if he be in company with a Cumane, the latter never fails to say, 'We owe this sun-dial to the learned Baron de Humboldt.' The word *sabio*, which they employ on this occasion, signifies in the mouth of a Creole of the Spanish colonies,

both wise and learned. I remarked that they never pronounced the name of this illustrious traveller without adding to it the epithet of *sabio*, and they speak of him with a mingled sentiment of admiration and regard. They are happy in relating the complaisance with which he showed them his astronomical instruments, and explained their use. Those who had received letters or notes from him, preserved them carefully, and esteem it an honour to have had a correspondence with him. These sentiments of the Cumane for that celebrated man, are equally honourable to their character, and that of the personage who is the object of them.

INHABITANTS OF, AND PRICE OF PROVISIONS AT, CUMANÁ.

"Cumana is built at the foot of a volcanic mountain, and subject to earthquakes. This town has no public establishment for the education of youth: it is therefore astonishing to find any knowledge among its inhabitants; yet there is some information disseminated among many of the Creoles of Cumana. They are but seldom sent to Europe for their education; the most wealthy receive it at Caraccas, and the greater number under school-masters, from whom they learn the Spanish grammar, arithmetic, the first elements of geometry, drawing, a little Latin and music. I have remarked considerable talent, application, and good conduct in their youth, and less vivacity and vanity than among those of Caraccas. Not being so rich as the latter, the Cumane are brought up with principles of economy and industry: there are no idlers among them; in general they are inclined to business. Some apply themselves to the mechanical arts, others to commerce: they have also a great partiality for navigation, and trading with the neighbouring colonies of other nations, and by their activity and prudence make considerable profits with small capitals. Their articles of exportation are cattle, smoked meat, (tassage) and salted fish, which commodities they have in great abundance. Two pounds of beef are sold at Cumana for two pence halfpenny; and twenty-two pounds of salt meat, at from three shillings and four pence to four shillings and two-pence. Fish is never weighed there, some days there is such a quantity caught by the fishermen, that they give ten, twelve or fifteen pounds weight for five-pence. The poor go to the sea side with maize, cakes, and eggs, and barter them for fish. Eggs are the small change in Cumana, Caraccas, and other provinces of Venezuela, where copper coin is unknown; the smallest piece in circulation being a medio-real in silver, worth two pence halfpenny. If one goes into a shop to buy something worth less than two pence halfpenny, they give as change, two or three eggs; for a dozen of eggs there is worth only two pence halfpenny. That is also the price of a measure of excellent milk, about a quart. A sheep is sold for a dollar; a fine turkey for twenty or twenty-five pence; a fowl for five pence; a fat

capon seven pence halfpenny to ten pence; a duck, the same price; game and wild fowl are frequently sold cheaper than butcher's meat, and all those articles are still cheaper in the small towns of the interior.

"I lived at the best and dearest hotel in Cumana, at a dollar per day, including the expenses of my son and servant. They gave us for breakfast cold meats, fish, chocolate, coffee, tea, and Spanish wine. An excellent dinner, with Spanish and French wines, coffee and liqueurs. In the evening chocolate. I was well lodged and lighted; I should have expended but half that sum if I had gone to board and lodge in a family. In short, there is not a country in the world, where one may live cheaper than in the province of Cumana. An excellent dinner may be had there for ten pence, not including wine, which does not cost more than five pence per bottle, to those who buy a quantity of it. Poor people drink punch, which is at a very low rate, for it does not cost above one penny per quart.

"The inhabitants of Cumana are very polite; it may even be said that they are excessively so. There is not so much luxury among them as at Caracas; their houses, however, are tolerably well furnished. They are very abstemious. Those dinners and festivals which form one of the charms of society in Europe, and which, in the British and French colonies are repeated almost every day from the first of January to the last of December, are unknown to the inhabitants of Cumana, and the other provinces of Venezuela."

GROTTO OF GUACHARO.

"The grotto of Guacharo is, in the opinion of the Indians, a place of trial and exaltation: souls, when separated from bodies, go to this cavern; those of men who die without reproach do not remain in it, and immediately ascend, to reside with the great Manitou in the dwellings of the blessed: those of the wicked are retained there eternally; and such men as have committed but slight faults of a venial nature, are kept there for a longer or shorter period, according to the crime.

"Immediately after the death of their parents and friends, the Indians go to the entrance of this cavern to listen to their groans. If they think they hear their voices, they also lament, and address a prayer to the great spirit Manitou, and another to the devil, Muboya; after which they drown their grief with intoxicating beverages. But if they do not hear the wished-for voices, they express their joy by dances and festivals. In all this there is but one circumstance that creates surprise; it is that the Indian priests have not availed themselves of such credulity to augment their revenues. Many Indians, though otherwise converted to Christianity, have not ceased to believe in Guacharo; and to descend into Guacharo, is, among them, synonymous with dying.

"Thus, in the majestic forests of South America, as in the ancient civilization of

Hindustan; under the harsh climates of the north of Europe and Canada, as in the burning regions of Africa, in all parts the man of every colour is distinguished from other animals by this irresistible foreboding of a future life, in which an omnipotent being recompenses the good, and punishes evil doers. Whatever may be the modifications, differences, or absurdities, with which imagination, ignorance, and greedy imposture have enveloped this belief, it appears to be one of the strongest moral proofs of the identity of our species, and to be a natural consequence of reflection.

"If the gloom of this cavern, and the monrful cries of the Caprimulgus, which it constantly re-echoes, are adapted for influencing and intimidating feeble minds; the clear river that runs from its entrance, at the feet of majestic mountains, crowned by the most beautiful vegetation, a smiling valley, together with the eternal spring of the climate, would have made an Elysium of this place, if it had produced a poet."

CURIOUS ANECDOTE CONCERNING AN IMAGE OF THE VIRGIN, AT THE ISLAND OF MARGARITA.

"My two countrymen invited me after dinner to take a walk on the beach; while there, I saw a number of persons assembled in the gallery of a house situated on the sea shore: we went into it, and I was presented to the master, an old man of eighty years of age, and very active. He was occupied with some young girls, in dressing a figure of the Virgin, which was to make its appearance in the evening (it was twelfth day) at the benediction. 'Well, my friend,' said the old Spanish Creole to me, 'I'll lay a wager you have never seen a holy virgin more magnificently and elegantly adorned than mine. You see on her dress all the lace and the finest ribbons of these young ladies. Admire that beautiful crown of pearls! There are as many in it as there are days in the year!' I reckoned them, and there were really three hundred and sixty-five beautiful pearls. I applauded his zeal highly. 'At last,' said he, 'I am happy to find a Frenchman who is a good Catholic: we have had some of your countrymen here already, sailors, and certainly heretics. I heard them say, for I understand a little French, that it was a great pity to put so many fine pearls on a statue. *Oh los demonios! los hereticos!* Oh the devils, the heretics! Can any thing be more agreeable to God, than ornamenting the immaculate Virgin, his mother?'

"A moment afterwards, the Holy Virgin was placed on a bier, from whence hung several rose-coloured ribbons, and each of the living virgins who were with the old Spaniard, held one of those ribbons; the figure was thus carried by four churchwardens, and received at the church door by the priest; the proprietor of the statue held the censor."

A DANDY PRIEST.

"During Lent, in 1807, I attended a

ball and festival given by the governor Gaspar Cagigal. There were two hundred persons at table, among whom I observed several very pretty women, well made, and dressed with an elegant simplicity. Many priests and friars were also at the festival; my old friend, the inquisitor, was the most conspicuous of them all, and made himself singularly agreeable. He was dressed in a beautiful habit of black silk, with embroidery and green ribbons, and a gold cross embroidered on his mantle. The other ecclesiastics were also in cassocks of black silk, and the father guardian of the Recollects had a gown of puce-coloured taffeta, and flescoloured silk stockings. This friar is a Creole of Caracas, a very fine man, witty, learned and benevolent, but a great dandy like almost all the natives of Caracas."

PATERNAL TENDERNES OF THE CREOLES.

"If the Creole women are the best of mothers, their husbands are generally good fathers. We do not see among them such egotistical and heartless fathers and mothers, as are but too frequently met with in Europe; people who think they do enough for their children, in bequeathing them what they have not been able to dissipate in this world, and cannot carry with them to the other. Such monsters are unknown to the new world; and, therefore, filial piety is there equal to paternal tenderness.

"The Creole father thinks, with reason, that he has a great duty to fulfil to his children—that his first care should be to place them in society, in a situation at least as fortunate as that in which he was placed by his own father—in a sphere as respectable as that in which he finds himself. There is nothing more admirable in social order, than the ardour with which a Creole father exercises his industry to increase his fortune. 'I have a necessity to work, in order to augment my property—I have a host of children, who did not ask me to bring them into the world—an expression trivial in appearance, but full of sense and affection, and which is well placed in the mouth of an American father. In those countries there are found even bachelor uncles, who are animated with the same kind affection for their nephews. Thus the Creole enjoys the pleasures of life as soon as he becomes capable of it, whilst a great number of Europeans, to use a vulgar expression, obtain bread only when they lose their teeth: thanks to the hard-hearted stupidity of their parents."

MARRIAGES OF THE CREOLES.

"Creoles generally consult only their taste, and seldom think of fortune, in forming a matrimonial union—it is common among them for a wealthy man to marry a woman without fortune; it is still more so, to see a rich heiress choose for her husband a man that is penniless; and it is also very common to see a young couple marry, without any other property than mutual love. 'They are young, and can make a fortune,' say their worthy pa-

rents. In those countries where labour and industry are not disgraceful, and where every active and industrious person is sure to succeed, it often happens that such persons acquire independent fortunes. The Creoles think, with reason, that in the choice of an union that ought to last for life, on which depends the happiness or misfortune of two individuals, and of those whom they may bring into the world, it is the affections of the parties which, above all, should be consulted. Thus it happens very seldom that parents are seen to oppose the inclination of their children, provided there be nothing dishonourable in their choice. It is due to the Creoles to say they are particularly delicate on this point, and the women quite as much as the men. Nothing, for instance, would induce a young Creole lady to marry a man deemed a liar or a coward."

SINGULAR CUSTOM AMONG THE WOMEN OF CUMANÁ.

"I remarked a very odd custom among the women of Cumaná—they wear neither veils nor gloves—thus, with the most agreeable and expressive shapes and countenances, they have a copper colour. While at Cumaná, I offered several pairs of gloves, for herself and her daughters, to a lady, to whom I was under some obligations. She accepted them, but mentioned that neither she nor her daughters could wear them; that it was not the custom in Cumaná—that any young lady seen with gloves and a veil, would be deemed a fantastical coquette, whom no one would marry, and that such fooleries were only fit for the *belles* and fops of Caraccas! While speaking of the Caraccas fops, I should not omit to mention, that it is not unusual to see the portraits of their mistresses suspended from their necks by gold chains, in about the same manner as a Parisian or London beau wears a glass to assist his sight, injured, no doubt, by the study of novels and late hours!"

CURIOUS PARTICULARS RELATIVE TO APES.

"A particular class of apes, who have a great dread of the water, when obliged to cross a stream, climb up the nearest tree to the bank, and form a chain by hanging from the tails of each other. If the river is not wide, the whole string of animals swing backward and forward until the lowest alights on the opposite bank, when he who is uppermost slides down the tree, and they are immediately pulled over by the one to whom the post of honour had been assigned. It should be remarked, that as fast as the latter's companions are drawn to land, they assist him in dragging the others to the bank. This very singular practice, which has frequently amused me, is accompanied with howlings, cries, and grimaces, sufficient to frighten any one not accustomed to the neighbourhood of those living caricatures of our species.

"It is equally true that this most mischievous tribe invariably place sentinels whenever they halt, particularly when

employed on a foraging excursion—this fact I have ascertained to my cost, having often surprised bodies of them pillaging my fields of maize at Trinidad."

PHENOMENON ON THE ASPHALTUM LAKE.

"Here are seen groups of shrubs—there, tufts of pine apples and aloes. Among those shrubs and flowers, swarms of magnificent butterflies and brilliant humming birds seek their food, enlivening a scene which, if it were deprived of animals and vegetables, would present an exact image of Tartarus. Where an islet of several feet diameter had been seen in the evening, there is often nothing to be found the next morning but a gulf in which it has been swallowed up; while on the side of it has arisen another island, that will soon be covered with vegetation!"

Memoirs of the Life of Anne Boleyn, Queen of Henry VIII. By Miss Benger. 2 vols. small 8vo. London, 1821.

[From the London Literary Gazette.]

The works of Miss Benger have so fully established her in the literary world, among the female ornaments of the times, that the praise which these interesting volumes would otherwise extort, may well be spared. It is one of the best written, and most pleasing memoirs, within the scope of the subject; and though the circumstances of the life of Anne Bullen can hardly be new to the readers of history, even they will spend an agreeable hour in contemplating them so touchingly represented; while the general public will peruse with admiration and sympathy, the well told tale of her hapless fate, and the picturesque descriptions which it involves, of the manners of our ancestors at the distance of three centuries.

Anne Boleyn was born at Rochford, in Essex (40 miles from London, and now the property of W. L. W. Pole, Esq.), in the year 1507, two years before her future husband ascended the English throne. When seven years old, she went to France in the train of the Princess Mary, on her marriage with Louis XII.; and after the death of that monarch, and the return of Mary to England as the wife of the Duke of Suffolk, she remained in Paris, having been transferred to the service of Claude, the queen of Francis I. Among the numerous youthful court of this Princess she was educated; occasionally seeing her father, Sir Thomas Bullen, whose diplomatic missions not unfrequently led him to the continent. Treating of this period, Miss B. says,

"It may perhaps be asked, what services were required of Anne Boleyn, and how far her situation was calculated to promote her father's favourite object, that of forming in his

daughter an elegant and accomplished woman? The maids of honour appear to have been always considered rather as ornamental than useful; neither serious charge, nor weighty responsibility was ever imposed on these fairest ministers of royalty, whose business it was, like nymphs, to encircle their queen only to shed around her the ineffable charm of grace and beauty; accustomed to attend her on all public exhibitions of pomp and splendor; to dress with taste, to move with elegance, comprised their most important duties: their accomplishments, if any they possessed, were reserved for the recreation of her private hours, when, according to her humour, they were required to sing, dance, work, and pray alternately associated in her labours and devotions. Finally, their conduct was closely inspected by an elderly *gouvernante*, whose duty it was to maintain amongst them strict order and decorum. In the absence of schools and other seminaries of instruction, an establishment such as this must have offered some equivocal advantages to childhood, and few attractions to youth; to the former it might supply habits of docility and application, of promptitude and self possession, eminently useful in the intercourse of after-life; nor was it a defect peculiar to the education received in a court, that it blasted, by a specious semblance of maturity, the artless simplicity of childhood. Amongst the other vices inseparable from the artificial system transmitted by the middle ages, it was not the least, that it abridged what is usually esteemed the best and happiest season of human existence: the cheerfulness of infancy was soon clouded with care. At four years of age the sons of the nobility commenced their studies; at six they were initiated into the Latin grammar; at twelve they were introduced into company; at fourteen they exhausted their strength in hunting; at sixteen they were exercised in jousting; and at eighteen they were boldly ushered into public life. The education of girls was still more perniciously opposed to simplicity and nature; from the earliest period, they appear to have been taught to imitate the manners, and even to adopt the dress of grown women: at thirteen they were not only disguised by the stiff costumes, but infected with the pride, the vanity, and folly of their elder associates. From the

moment that they were allowed to assume their place at the tournament, they affected to dispense smiles and favors on real or pretended votaries; and, whilst glittering with gold and jewels, they began to expatiate on the reciprocations between the mistress and the servant, they learnt to envy the distinctions conferred by the bold successful champion, and to sigh for the sovereignty conceded to peerless beauty.

"Of the elementary education of Anne Boleyn, little is known, and nothing detailed; but it is impossible not to discover that it must have been likely rather to foster pride and vanity, than to exercise the sympathies, or to create the habits of domestic life. From the cradle, she had been an object of peculiar attention; her beauty attracted notice; her quick parts, and graceful attitudes, called forth spontaneous admiration. It is traditionally recorded, that her promising childhood gave the presage of her future greatness; and in this, as in other instances, the prediction might lead to its own accomplishment."

Previous to following out the biographical thread, we may preface that the first quarter of the volume is delightfully occupied with original documents from the British Museum, and information collected from old writers, whose tracts are not in common circulation. Thus we find entertaining notices interspersed with the view of Henry's court and conduct. A letter from queen Catherine to Wolsey, of 13th of August, 1513, (the period when Henry invaded France,) is worthy of selection, were it only for its allusion to the game of Golf.

"Master Almoner, I received both the letters by Copynger and John Glyn, and I am very glad to hear so [how] well the king passeth his dangerous passage. . . . I trust to God it shall so continue that ever the king shall have . . . best on his enemies with as great honour as ever king had. Till I saw your letter I was troubled to hear [how] so near the king was to the siege of Trowenne . . . but now I thank God ye make me sure of the good heed that the king taketh of himself, to avoid all manner of dangers. I pray you, good Mr. Almoner, remember the king always thus to continue, for with his life and health there is nothing in the world that shall come amiss, by the grace of God, and . . . without that, I can see no manner of good thing shall fall

after it, and being sure that ye will not forget this, I will say herein no more, but I pray you to write . . . to me and though ye have no great matters, yet I pray you send me word . . . the chief that is to me from the king's own self. Ye may think, when I put you to this labour, that I forget the great business that ye have on hand; but if ye see . . . in what case I am, that is without any comfort or pleasure unless I hear from him, ye will not blame me to desire you, though it be a short letter, to let me know from you tidings as often as may be, as my trusting dispatch unto you. From hence, I have no thing to write to you, but that ye be not so busy in this . . . war, as we be here encumbered with it. I mean that touching my own concerns, for going farther, where I shall not so often hear from the king. And all his subjects be very glad, I thank God, to be busy with the goff,* for they take it for . . . pastime; my heart is very good to it and I am horrible busy with making . . . standards, banners and bagets. I pray God first to send there with you a good battail, as I trust he shall do, and with that every thing here shall go very well . . . you to send me word whether you received the letters that I sent unto you to . . . of the king my father and what answer he gave you to it; and with this . . . an end. At Richmount the xiiij day of August. CATHERINE."

It was in this trip to France that Henry first deviated from his fidelity to Catherine. The battle of Flodden was fought ere his return, which the Author thus mentions—

"It is easy to imagine how much the recollections and the trophies of this glorious victory must have heightened the delight with which Catherine welcomed back her lord and sovereign. She neither knew nor suspected with what ardent admiration he had beheld the beautiful wife of Sir Gilbert Tall-

* This passage evidently alludes to the popular game of goffe, of which the following account is given in Strutt's Sports and Pastimes.—"There are many games played with the ball, that require the assistance of a club, or bat, and probably the most ancient among them is the pastime now distinguished by the name of goff. In the northern parts of the kingdom, goff is much practised. It requires much room to perform this game with propriety; it answers to a rustic pastime of the Pomans, which they played with a ball of leather stuffed with feathers, called *paganica*; and the goff-ball is composed of the same materials to this day."

boys,* (governor of Calais,) the first acknowledged rival in her husband's affections."

But we must take up again the story of the heroine of this tragedy. Anne stayed eight years in France, and was probably a spectator of the famous meeting between Henry and Francis, in the field of the Cloth of Gold, of which an animated picture is drawn. On the breaking out of the war, in 1522-3, a formal requisition was made to Francis for the restoration of Anne Bullen, who in consequence was sent back to England. She was, as is well known, under the auspices of Wolsey, introduced to the king, upon whose heart her brunette complexion and fascinating manners made a deep impression, in spite of the imperfections thus curiously enumerated by her ardent admirer, and the defender of her memory, Sir T. Wyatt.

"There was at this time presented to the eye of the court the rare and admirable *bewtie* of the fresh and young Lady Anne Bolein, to be attendicte upon the Queen. In this noble imp the graces of nature, graced by gracious *educacion*, seemed even at the first to have promised blis unto her after times; she was taken at that time to have a *bewtie* not so whitly *cleere* and fresh, above al we may *esteeme*, which appeared much more excellent by her favour *passinge* sweete and chearful, and thes both also increased by her noble presence of shape and *fasion*, representing both mildness and majesty, more than can be exprest. Ther was found indeede upon the side of her naile upon one of her fingers some little shoue of a naile, which yet was so small, by the report of those that have seen her, as the *woorkmaister* seemed to leave it an occasion of greater grace to her hand, which, with the tip of one of her other fingers, might be and was usually by her hidden, without any least blemish to it. Likewise ther were said to be upon certain parts of her boddie small moles, incident to the clearest complexions; and certainly both thes were none other than might more stain their writings with

* This lady, the daughter to Sir John Blount, appears to have been one of the most beautiful and accomplished women of her time. After her husband's death she was notoriously the king's mistress, and had by him a son called Henry Fitzroy, born in 1519, created Duke of Richmond, in 1525, who died in 1537.

note of malice, that have catch at such light moles in so bright beams of bewtie, than in any partshadow it, as may right wel appeare by many arguments, but chiefly by the choice and exquisite judgments of many brave spirits that weer esteemed to honor the honorable parts in her, even honored of envie itself."

The poetical portrait, by the same amiable hand, may be congenially quoted.

A face that should content me wond'rous well

Should not be fair.—but lovely to behold.
With gladsome cheer all grief for to expel.

With sober looks, so would I that it should

Speak without words, such words as none can tell.

Her tresse also should be of crisped gold,

With wit, and then might chance I might be tied,

And knit again the knot that should not slide.*

A very strange opinion of the English court at this period must be formed from the following *naïve* description.

"Under the Tudors, the frank hospitality of the rude Saxon monarchs was still perpetuated on public festivals, at Christmas and Easter, on twelfth day and Michaelmas, and some other extraordinary occasions, when the King lived in Hall, and freely treated all who asked for entertainment. In general the palace, like the pageant so often admitted within its walls, presented a motley combination of bloated luxury and squalid wretchedness, fantastic elegance and sordid penury. The royal apartments were strewn with rushes; the stairs and floors of the other rooms were often inlaid with filth; and whilst fires blazed in the great chambers, hung with arras, the inferior officers were shivering with cold; and some of their attendants literally beggars.

"Among other statutes published in the 17th year of this reign, at Eltham, was one, by which it was enacted, that none, but decent persons should be admitted into court service; that in future not rascal should be employed

* See Non's Life of Wyatt. The 'tresse of crisped gold' is a poetic license. The colour of Anne Boleyn's hair appears to have been a dark brown, as may be seen by a portrait taken of her by Holbein, still preserved in Warwick castle.

† Coals were only allowed for the King, Queen, and Lady Mary's chambers.

‡ A rascal implied an illiterate vagrant; one who could not even repeat his Creed.

in any domestic capacity; and that the scullions of the kitchen should not be permitted to go naked. By another article, it was prohibited to* any of the King's household to follow the King when he should go on his pastime, unless invited. By another article, obviously dictated by Henry's personal feelings, it is enacted, that in future none be admitted but persons of good demeanor, fashion, gesture, countenance, and stature, so as the King's house may be furnished with such as are tried, elect and picked for the King's honor. To the privilege of maintenance, implied in the *bouche* of court, a comparatively small number of the palace inmates were admitted; but for the personal attendants both of the King and Queen, there was in general kept a plentiful table, and to the six maids of honor were allotted, a chet loaf and a manchet, a chine of beef, and a gallon of ale for breakfast.†

[To be continued.]

* It was expressly stipulated, that the officers of the squillery shall see silver and pewter vessels kept safe, (pewter vessels being then costly); and it is forbidden to the King's attendants to steal locks or keys from cupboards, or other articles of furniture out of noblemen's or gentlemen's houses where he goes to visit. The King's barber is enjoined to be cleanly, and by no means to frequent the company of misguided women, and idle persons. The Knight Marshal is directed to take good care that all such unthrifty and common women as follow the court be banished.

† "King Henry," says Loyd, "understood a man and a dish. Among the dainties which he relished, were, giggots of mutton or venison, stopped with cloves, chickens in crituary, larkes, sparrows, or lamb stued, with chines of mutton, venison pasty; jelly hippocras, cream of almonds.

"Stabling was allowed to such of the Queen's gentlewomen as were peers' daughters. Seven messes of ladies dined at the same table in the great chamber: a chet loaf and manchet, ale and wine, beef and mutton, were supplied in abundance, with the addition of capons or hens, pigeons and conies. On fast day, salt salmon, salted eels, whittings, gurnet, plaice, and flounders; fruit was reserved for Lent; butter was always allowed in profusion.

"The Queen's table was furnished with more elegance, and with the additional delicacies of fricandes or custard, frythour or tarte; besides every delicacy of the season.

"The brewer is enjoined not to put hops or brimstone into the ale.

"A swan was five shillings, a capon eighteen pence, pigeons eight pence per dozen; a fat heron was eight pence, a partridge four pence, pullets three pence each, conies two shillings per dozen; the

Memoirs of Benjamin H. La Trobe.

[From Ackerman's Repository for January.]

It is with real regret we announce the death of a very amiable man and clever artist, a native of this country, who has successfully exemplified his talent as an architect and engineer in the United States of America; and whose reputation has deservedly obtained an elevated rank abroad, and a corresponding respect at home.

The New Orleans papers, to the 4th of September, describe the ravages of the disease by which that city is afflicted, as being awful and increasing; and announces, that, amongst the victims to its violence, is Benjamin Henry La Trobe, the distinguished artist who is well known from his works by nearly all the Atlantic states: he died on the 3d of September 1820.

Two or three years ago, his eldest son fell a victim to the climate of the same place.

In 1795, Mr. La Trobe at the age of thirty-three visited America, with the purpose of proceeding to Philadelphia and to the seat of his maternal uncle, colonel Antes, on the Susquehanna; but from severe stress of weather in which the ship was in much danger for ten weeks, it ran into Norfolk in Virginia. Here, unknown to every one, he accidentally accosted a gentleman who proved to be a commissioner of the customs, and who, interested by his amiable manners invited him to his house and shortly introduced him to colonel Bulstrode Washington: this gentleman interested by the superior accomplishments of the young stranger, took a speedy opportunity to present him to his relation the president with whom he remained some days at Mount Vernon, and was encouraged to enter upon his profession as architect and engineer.

In this little history of events how much is obviously the work of a kind Providence, who from the very elements of human anxiety, disappointment and danger, elicits the fulfilment of our most arduous enterprises, and, as it were in a moment, effects an event whose distance

stork, the bustard, and the crane, were then admitted to the table.

"A munificent provision of twenty-four loaves per day was made for the King's greyhounds, other dogs were banished the court, with the exception of spaniels kept for the ladies.

"A gift was allowed to whoever married, or made the King a present."

is beyond the command of man, even by an exercise of the greatest skill, and the most laborious exertions.

Mr. La Trobe was early consulted on the practicability of making the James river navigable, which he accomplished; and was appointed engineer to the state of Virginia. He resided some time at Richmond, and after, a few years at Philadelphia, his reputation having preceded him: here he executed important works for supplying the city with water, and built the bank; he also improved and repaired the works of defence, and lighthouses on the coast, and thus obtained the appointment of engineer to the city of Philadelphia. About this time, being a widower, he married an amiable and accomplished lady, the daughter of Isaac Harkhurst, Esq.

On being appointed surveyor of the public works to the United States, he removed to Washington: he there executed some of his principal buildings, among which is the hall of representatives. It is a circumstance worthy of remark, that but one month prior to the moment of his decease, Mr. La Trobe addressed a letter to Mr. Ackerman, in which he enumerates some of his chief works, and consults him on the publication of his designs, copies of which he intended to transmit to London for the purpose.—He mentions the cathedral of Baltimore as a building of granite, vaulted throughout, and the largest church in North America; the dome 70 feet internal diameter, and 100 feet internal height. The exchange of Baltimore, 250 by 140 feet, as his boldest work, the dome 115 feet high.

The hall of representatives at Washington, a room 100 feet long by 80 feet wide and 50 feet high, and embellished with 24 highly sculptured Corinthian columns 28 feet high, and with a suitable entablature, all in stone, and the whole vaulted in that material and brick.

The bank of Pennsylvania, a building entirely of white marble, some of the covering blocks of which are 25 feet long, 5 feet wide, and 1 foot thick: this he considers his best work.

The north wing of the capitol of the United States, he mentions as having been begun when he became surveyor of the public works; and that he succeeded a French architect and our intelligent countrymen Mr. Hadfield, the architect, in that building. As part of this edifice was of a tem-

porary nature, he reformed the interior and simplified the exterior, designed the centre, and erected the south wing in correspondence with the north; the interior, however, he regrets is not to his mind; and concludes by stating, that *la difficulté vaincu* is yet too conspicuous in its arrangements. Mr. La Trobe adds, that the bank of the United States now building by one of his pupils Mr. Strickland, is his design, but that the principal room is a deviation from it.

Mr. La Trobe's occupation towards the close of his life became of a very anxious nature, and as a portion of his letter to Mr. Ackerman, not only explains it, but supplies a just encomium on his eldest son, whose death was noticed in the commencement of this narrative: we shall take leave to extract it.

"In the year 1811, I sent my eldest son, then only seventeen years old, to New Orleans, to attend to the execution of the works necessary to supply the city with water; for which object I had obtained an exclusive privilege. I was then surveyor of all the public buildings of the United States, an office of great and honourable trust; and my son with very uncommon talents, and particularly for the objects of my own profession, with the assistance of good mechanics, was able to attend to this great work. The war and a variety of other causes delayed the execution of the work; and in 1817, I had the irreparable misfortune to lose him, leaving the concern and 50,000 dollars involved in it, in the most precarious state: it was therefore necessary for me either to submit to a total loss of so large a property, or prepare to come to New Orleans. I resigned, therefore, my public offices, and in 1818 came hither; and on April 20th brought my whole family, where we shall probably reside for a year or two."

On the 4th of August, Mr. La Trobe wrote the above letter, and on the 5d of September following, he was no more.

As the biography of men of genius is at all times interesting, we add some facts relative to the early years of our much lamented friend.

Benjamin Henry La Trobe was the second son of the late Rev. Benjamin La Trobe, a descendent of a noble protestant family from Languedoc, and superintendent of all the establishments in England belonging to the

church known by the name of *Unitas Fratrum*. He was born in 1762 and educated at Fulner, near Leeds, and at fifteen years of age commenced his college studies at Nisby in Saxony, where he distinguished himself as a scholar of much genius, having every facility for the attainment of all kinds of useful knowledge, besides the learned languages, mathematics, and philosophy. Here he manifested a great delight in drawing, and particularly of architecture.

Returning to England in 1785, he obtained an appointment in the stamp office, presented to him by the lords commissioners of the treasury, in consideration of the great esteem in which his father was held by the existing government. But this employment not suiting his feelings and active mind, he entered the office of an eminent architect in the city, and afterwards that of another professional gentleman; with whom, however he remained but a short time.

Whilst pursuing his studies at home, he was visited by a friend Mr. Sperling, who finding him disengaged, and admiring his growing talents, commissioned him to design and build for him a mansion near East Grinstead, to be called Hammerwood Lodge; it is now in the possession of Dorrien Magens Esq. This building obtained for him the further patronage of Mr. Trayton Fuller, for whom he designed a house at Ashdown Park; and being further established in his profession, he about this time married the daughter of the late Rev. Mr. Sallon, rector of St. James' Clerkenwell, with whom he lived in the enjoyment of true domestic felicity. She brought him a son and daughter; but the birth of a third child proved fatal to the mother; and this sudden bereavement threw Mr. La Trobe into a nervous disorder that led to much derangement of his affairs; which having reinstated, he formed the resolution of quitting England for America, with the intention of visiting his uncle, and establishing himself in that country.

VARIETIES.

The following specimens of European accuracy may amuse some of our readers. We copy them from a ponderous work, in five quarto volumes, entitled "The Geographical and Historical Dictionary of America and the West Indies. Containing an entire Translation of the Spanish Work of Colonel Don Antonio de Alcedo, cap-

tain of the royal Spanish guards, and member of the Royal Academy of History. With large additions and compilations from modern voyages and travels, and from original and *authentic* information. By G. A. Thompson, Esq. London, 1812." The English editor tells us in an elaborate preface of "the very *true and accurate* information contained in the original," and of the value of the new matter added by himself, "all of it drawn from the *best sources* extant, and a great portion of it from those of the most *unquestionable authority*."

"BURLINGTON, a capital city of West Jersey, situate in an island in the middle of the river Delaware, opposite Philadelphia: it is regularly built, and the streets are wide. It is the residence of the tribunals, and here are celebrated the assemblies or meetings of the province. It was founded in 1638, and has been improving ever since. Its situation, and the circumstance of its being contiguous to some small bays, have naturally turned the minds of the inhabitants to fishing. The territory abounds in every kind of grain and provisions, especially in flour, pigs and white peas, which are carried to the market at New York, to be forwarded to the islands. It carries on a great commerce in hides, whalebone, oil and fish. It formerly gave name to a county; has a large town house, an excellent exchange for merchants; and two very good bridges, the one called London and the other York. Its convenient communication with Philadelphia, makes it a place of great commerce by the river Salem, which empties itself into the bay of Delaware at lat. 40° 4 min. N. long. 74° 55 min. W."

"CONNECTICUT, a county of the province and colony of New England in North America. It is bounded W. by New York. This province abounds in wood, turpentine, and resins, in the collecting of which numbers of the inhabitants are employed. This county is well peopled and flourishing, since it numbers upwards of 40,000 souls. When this colony was first founded, many great privileges were given it, which have always been maintained by the English governor through the fidelity which it manifested in not joining the insurrection of the province of Massachusetts, until, in the last war, it was separated from the metropolis, as is seen in the article *United States of America*."

The English editor adds, for further elucidation, "The capital is Boston."

"PHILADELPHIA, a county of the province and colony of Pennsylvania in North America; bounded N. E. by the county of Bucks, S. E. by Jersey, S. W. by Chester, and N. W. by Berks. *Pennsylvania*, the capital of the above province, is situate most delightfully, stretching along a strip of land upon the conflux of the two rivers Delaware and Schuylkill. In the centre is a large public place, in the figure of a decagon. The two principal streets, called High street and Wide street, are 100 feet across; the greater part of the houses, gardens and orchards, are irrigated by

small canals running from the river, and supplying to the use and necessities of the town, as also to the delight and recreation of its inhabitants. The dock is beautiful and 100 feet large, and of such depth as to be capable of receiving to repair a vessel of 500 tons, and twenty vessels have been built in it at once. The city, without including the suburbs and the store houses, contains 3000 houses, and 18,000 souls. The Dutch employ from 8 to 9000 carts each drawn by four horses, for transporting the productions of their estates to the Philadelphia market. The most sumptuous building in the whole town is the house of representatives of the colony, where the members meet frequently in the course of the year; and on the side of this stands the great library, which was built in 1732 by the celebrated Benjamin Franklin, the same being open to the public only on Sundays, but to the founders every day in the week, &c."

"PISCATAQUA, a port of the North Sea, on the coast of the province of *Continent*, one of those of New England in North America where its boundaries touch upon the boundaries of New Hampshire, &c."

Professor of Signs.

[From the Scrap Book.]

King James VI. on removing to London, was waited upon by the Spanish ambassador, a man of erudition, but who had a *crotchet* in his head that every country should have a Professor of signs, to teach him and the like of him to understand one another. The ambassador was lamenting one day, before the king, this great desideratum throughout all Europe, when the king, who was a *queerish* sort of man, says to him—"Why, I have a Professor of Signs in the northernmost college in my dominions, viz. at Aberdeen; but it is a great way off, perhaps 600 miles." "Were it 10,000 leagues off I shall see him," says the ambassador, "and am determined to set out in two or three days." The king saw he had committed himself, and writes, or causes to be written, to the University of Aberdeen, stating the case, and desiring the professors to put him off some way, or make the best of him. The ambassador arrives, is received with great solemnity; but soon began to inquire which of them had the honour to be Professor of Signs? and being told that the Professor was absent in the Highlands, and would not return nobody could say when, says the ambassador, "I will wait his return, though it were twelve months." Seeing that this would not do, and that they had to entertain him at a great expence all the while, they contrived a stratagem. There was one Geordy, a butcher, blind of an eye, a droll fellow, with much wit and roguery about him. He is got, told the story, and instructed to be a Professor of Signs; but not to speak on pain of death! Geordy undertakes it. The ambassador is now told that the Professor of Signs would be at home next day, at which he rejoiced greatly. Geordy is *gowned, wigged, and*

placed in a chair of state in a room of the college, all the professors and the ambassador being in an adjoining room. The ambassador is now shown into Geordy's room, and left to converse with him as well as he could, the whole professors waiting the issue with fear and trembling. The ambassador holds up one of his fingers to Geordy; Geordy holds up two of his. The ambassador holds up three—Geordy clenches his fist and looks stern. The ambassador then takes an orange from his pocket, and holds it up; Geordy takes a piece of barley cake from his pocket, and holds that up. After which the ambassador bows to him, and retires to the other professors, who anxiously enquired his opinion of their brother. "He is a perfect miracle," says the ambassador; "I would not give him for the wealth of the Indies!" "Well," say the professors, "to descend to the particulars." "Why," said the ambassador, "I first held up one finger, denoting that there was one God; he held up two, signifying that these are the Father and Son—I held up three, meaning the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; he clenched his fist, to say that these three are one. I then took out an orange, signifying the goodness of God, who gives his creatures not only the necessities, but the luxuries of life; upon which the wonderful man presented a piece of bread, showing that it was the staff of life, and preferable to every luxury." The professors were glad that matters had turned out so well; so having got quit of the ambassador, they next got Geordy, to hear his version of the signs. "Well, Geordy, how have you come on, and what do you think of yon man?" "The rascal!" says Geordy, "what did he do first, think ye? He held up one finger, as much as to say, you have only one eye! Then I held up two, meaning that my one eye was perhaps as good as both his. Then the fellow held up three of his fingers, to say there was but three eyes between us; and then I was so mad at the scoundrel, that I *steeked my neire*, and was to come a whack on the side of his head, and would ha' done it too, but for your sakes. Then the rascal did not stop with his provocations here, but forsooth takes out an orange, as much as to say, your poor beggarly cold country cannot produce that! I showed him a whang of a bear banrick, meaning that I did na' care a farthing for him nor his trash neither, as lang's I ha' this! But by a' that's guid (concluded Geordy), I'm angry yet that I didna' thrash the hide o' the scoundrel!"—(So much for signs, or two ways of telling a story.)

Anecdotes of George III.

[From the London Literary Gazette.]

The Tomb-house.—At the time his Majesty, desiring that himself and family should repose in one, and a less public sepulchre than that of Westminster, had ordered the tomb-house at Windsor to be constructed, Mr. Wyatt, his architect, waited upon him with a detailed report and

plan of the design, and of the manner in which he proposed to arrange it for its high and holy purpose...the reception of the remains of royalty. The king went minutely through the whole; and when finished, Mr. Wyatt, in thanking his Majesty, said opologetically, he had ventured to occupy so much of his Majesty's time and attention with these details, in order that it might not be necessary to bring so painful a subject again under his notice. To this the good man replied, "*Mr. Wyatt, I request that you will bring the subject before me whenever you please. I shall attend with as much pleasure to the building of a tomb to receive me when I am dead, as I would to the decorations of a drawing room to hold me while living: for, Mr. Wyatt, if it please God that I should live to be ninety or a hundred, I am willing to stay; but if it please God to take me this night, I am ready to go!*"

Physicians.—The king said to a gentleman about his person one day, who had just recovered from an indisposition. "Well, Mr. — I hear that you treat the physicians just as I do; I never take any of their stuff. But when I am ill I always rise, as usual, early in the morning; you lie in bed—I believe you are right."

The following delicate but interesting anecdote may, we hope, be related without wounding any feeling. The king's illness in 1804 must be in the memory of every one. Soon after, Mr. T——y, Clerk of the Works at Hampton, was afflicted with mental derangement, and rendered incapable of performing his duties. His superior officer (the gentleman whose name is used in the first of these anecdotes, and a man whose humanity adorned humanity) felt at the same time much commiseration, and some embarrassment. He consulted Mr. P——ce, who stood high in his royal master's opinion, and told him that he was averse to report the affair to the Treasury, as it might lead to the unfortunate invalid's being superseded; and yet it was a matter which he could hardly, under all circumstances, mention to the king, with the view of obtaining his permission to employ a substitute while the cure of T——y was attempted. Assured by Mr. P——ce that His Majesty might as readily be approached on that subject as on any other, and that in fact he frequently spoke of it, the application was in consequence humbly and respectfully made. The king listened to the story, and heard T——y's disorder described with his wonted placidity, and at last exclaimed—"Poor devil! Give him fair play!"

Well turned compliment.—One day, when Sir Isaac Heard was with his late Majesty, it was announced that His Majesty's horse was ready to start for hunting. "Sir Isaac, (said the good monarch) are you a judge of horses?" "In my younger days, please your Majesty," was the reply, "I was a great deal among them." "What do you think of this,

then? (said the king, who was by this time preparing to mount his favourite) and without waiting for an answer, added, "we call him *Perfection*." "A most appropriate name," replied the courtly Herald, bowing as His Majesty reached the saddle, "*for he bears the best of character!*"

The King's Horse.—The favourite charger of George III, named Adonis, was an animal of great beauty and extraordinary sagacity; his affection for his royal master was perhaps equal to either. It is said, that, upon one occasion, when His Majesty visited Cumberland Lodge, the horse, then in the stable, heard his voice, and began neighing and pawing the ground with great violence: the king hearing him went to the door, which seemed only to increase his anxiety. His Majesty knew the cause, and said, "Well, well, I must humour him; bring Adonis out." He was saddled and led forth; His Majesty mounted, and rode him for a short time, to the manifest delight of the creature, which appeared conscious of the importance of his burthen, and upon the king's alighting, he returned to his stall perfectly quiet and satisfied. It is a curious fact, that this horse, which carried the king so long, died mad some time after the monarch's last attack.

Adonis' skin was perfectly white—he was the only horse the Hanoverian stud had produced for many years, with a skin so pure, although the original breed were all so. The hide of this noble beast is now being stuffed by Leadbitter.

Royal Reproof.—The king ordered Mr. S——, a tradesman of some eminence in London, to wait upon him at Windsor Castle at 8 o'clock in the morning of a day appointed. Mr. S—— was half an hour behind the time, and upon being announced, His Majesty said, "desire him to come at eight o'clock to-morrow morning." Mr. S—— appeared the next day again after the time, and received the same command. The third day he contrived to be punctual. Upon his entrance the king said, "Oh! the great Mr. S——! What sleep do you take, Mr. S——?" "Why, please your Majesty, I am a man of regular habits—I usually take eight hours." "Two much, too much," said the king—"six hours sleep is enough for a man, seven for a woman, and eight for a fool; eight for a fool, Mr. S——."

Novelties in Literature and the Arts.

[From the Monthly Mag. for Feb.]

Dr. Prettyman Timine, lately translated to the bishopric of Winchester, tutor of Mr. Pitt, and his private friend during his public career, having finished his promised memoirs of that active, but unfortunate minister, the work will speedily be published. It may be expected to exhibit authentic details, the secret history of his tergiversations, and the political intrigues of an eventful period of history.

Memoirs of the Last Nine Years of the reign of George II. by *Henry-Waipole*,

Earl of Orford. From the original MSS. found in the chest left by his lordship's will, to be opened by the first earl of Waldegrave who should attain the age of 21 after the year 1800, will soon appear in 2 volumes 4to.

In February will be published, *Metrical Legends of Exalted Characters*, by *Joanna Bailie*, author of *Plays on the Passions*, &c.

And at the same time will appear a new edition of "*Plays on the Passions*," in 3 vols, 8vo. by the same ingenious lady.

The *Travels in Syria and Mount Sinai*, viz—1. A Journey from Aleppo to Damascus—2. A Tour in the District of Mount Libanus and Antilibanus—3. A Tour in the Hauran—4. A Second Tour in the Hauran—5. A Journey from Damascus, through Arabia-Petrea, and the Desert El Ty, to Cairo—6. A Tour in the Peninsula of Sinai, may speedily be expected, by the late *John Lewis Burckhardt*.

The works of John Playfair, F. R. S. L. & E. late Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, with an account of the author's life, are announced, in 4 vols, 8vo.

In accordance with the suggestions and plans published at different times in this Miscellany, some public spirited persons have announced an arrangement for the erection of a splendid monument in honour of Shakspeare at Stratford upon Avon. We regret, however, that no notice is taken of our plan for relieving the collateral branches of that great man's family, now in distress and indigence: and although we desire to see the former part of our design carried into execution, yet we earnestly entreat, that no liberal person will, on any pretence whatever, contribute towards the erection of a monument, provided the projectors do not include the proposed and expected assistance to the Shakspeare family. We would rather there should be no additional monument than that this imperious duty should, through any intrigue, be basely neglected.

The works of John Hume, Esq. author of "*Douglas, a Tragedy*," &c. with an Account of his Life and Writings, by *HENRY MACKENZIE*, Esq. F. R. S. E. in 3 vols. 8vo. will speedily appear.

Letters of Mary Lefel, Lady Hervey, with illustrative notes, are printing.

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